



U.S. Department of Justice

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OPERATION STREETSWEEPER

QUEEN CITY WOMAN CHARGED WITH SELLING CRACK COCAINE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE - United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, New Hampshire Attorney General Kelly Ayotte, and Manchester Police Chief John Jaskolka, announced today that a federal Grand Jury handed down an indictment against Michelle Oliveiri, charging her with two counts of illegally distributing crack cocaine. According to the indictment, Oliveiri distributed crack cocaine in violation of federal law on two occasions on July 20, 2004. Oliveiri, age 36, was last known to reside in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Oliveiri was arraigned today before U.S. Magistrate Judge James R. Muirhead. A trial date was set for September 7, 2005. Oliveiri, who faces up to thirty years imprisonment and a fine on each of the two counts, was detained pending trial.

This matter was investigated by the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force and the Manchester Police Department as part of Operation Streetsweeper, a federal program administered by the United States Attorney's Office to reduce street-level drug distribution in New Hampshire's larger cities. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Morse.

An indictment is only an allegation and not proof of criminal conduct. As in all criminal cases, each defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.